



GAUCHO III,
owned by
JANNE
RUMBOUGH

By Inmaculada Rodríguez

PHOTO: PHELPSPHOTOS

Gaicho III, owned by Janne Rumbough and bred by Señorío de Bariáin can be considered an important ambassador for the PRE in the US. Currently, this horse holds first place on the US list of Dressage sire stallions from among 300 breeds that compete in this discipline. He won several gold medals at Grand Prix level and has his own fan club. Likewise, some of his youngsters have begun to show their worth in the world of Dressage, which has placed his owner at the top of the listings

When you bought Gaicho III were you looking for a competition horse or did that arise later?

When I originally saw Gaicho III I was looking for an international dressage horse. I bought Gaicho III from Juan Matute who had trained him so beautifully, and only much later came to meet and know Alvaro Muguruza, who was the breeder of the horse. I did not buy Gaicho III because he was a Spanish Horse; he more than fulfilled my desire for a competitive sport horse. The horse was born in 1990, and I purchased him in November 1996 when he was 6 years old. From February 1997 through March 2000, Gaicho III competed in the USA and at his second Grand Prix won the gold medal for me!

What was it about Gaicho III that captivated you?

Gaicho III has 3 truly good gaits – exceptional really – and his athletic ability was very apparent as well as the fact that he was physically so beautiful – his magnetism is just as irresistible then as it is now. He is a horse with great confidence, enormous ambition, a great heart and super work ethic. As a competitor he had such an impact that many people traveled many hours to see him perform every time he went out to compete – he had a real “fan club”! He has been an incredible ambassador for the PRE breed because he was taken very seriously as a dressage competitor.

You have achieved major successes with many of your horses

and this has let you to top-level completion. Please tell us the methodology you use with your horses?

In training all my horses, I use the German Training Scale. I have always felt that sometimes the fastest way to get there is actually the slowest! I take all my horses on trails to relax their minds and keep them interested and happy. We do not drill dressage movements every day. I want a happy healthy horse that is still ‘bucking’ with enthusiasm! I am very much a stickler for training my horses to accept a good and steady contact, and make sure they have the “go” and “stop” button all the time, so that they are never behind my leg.

Janne Rumbough with Gaicho III



PHOTO: PHELPSPHOTOS



Winnie Too, daughter of Gaucho III

In short, what has been the key to the success of Gaucho III in dressage?

Amongst other things, Gaucho III has amazing gaits, and he learned all the movements for the Grand Prix with great ease and flair before he was truly 7 years old. He had no problem with piaffe and passage and I must say that his tempi changes were, and are still, spectacular! His one tempi changes were enormously expressive and very easy for him. He understood these upper level movements, and was always proud and pleased to offer them to the greatest extent of his abilities.

In the year 2000 at the Selection Trials at the CDI*** vet check, Gaucho III, being full of energy, expressed himself with an exuberant "capriole" on the stony road and tragically broke his canon bone. Subsequently the cartilage in his fetlock was damaged and in spite of heroic measures of the best veterinarians in the country, the quality of his gaits were affected by this accident and even though his great heart made him still anxious

to perform, and I decided not to show him any more competitively.

The USA judges are probably not accustomed to judging pre horses. Do you believe this is an advantage or a disadvantage for the breed?

I have always had confidence the judges and feel that they have treated us fairly. If you ride a good test, and your training is correct, more often than not, you will be rewarded for it. For me, the breed is not the issue – a good horse is a good horse. However many PRE horses have a special talent for collection – I do find this to be an advantage with this breed. Most of them also are very trainable in temperament, which always helps when the horse is working with you. These horses are intelligent and creative, and they need sensitive handling to bring the best out of them.

Gaucho III was approved as a "qualified" breeding stallion in 2007, and he has been breeding for quite a long time. What proportion of his descendants has followed

their sire's competitive career and which of his offspring stand out?

With the end of his competitive career, came his very successful breeding career. In 1997 when Gaucho III first arrived, I was approached by a well known PRE breeder in California, who had heard that he had been imported, and who was excited at the prospect of such a horse energizing the competitive breeding possibilities for PRE horses in this country. When the decision was made in 2000 to stand him as a stallion, this breeder helped me to select some of the best mares, who would be the most appropriate candidates to produce dressage horses expressing his quality. In Spain, where his name is still a household word, he has produced approximately 20 offspring, and in the United States more like 80 purebred PRE horses. Some of his youngsters are just coming into competition, and are beginning their journey towards fame and fortune. A wonderful bay son called BIONICO will be in the FEI 4 year old circuit this year. I own 3



Janne Rumbough competing with JR, Son of Gaucho III

PHOTO: SUSAN J STICKLE



JR, son of Gaucho III

of Gaucho III's children, and JR and WINNIE TOO have, this season at the big Wellington Show Circuit, won more than 40 (1st place) blue ribbons, and 13 2nd places. They have also excelled with a number of championships.

Has he covered many central european competition mares?

I have not used him to cover mares outside his breed particularly because he was only "qualified" in 2007 for international breeding. I have a wonderful competitive mare that is out of an exceptional main stud book Oldenburg mare, which is showing with great success. There are a number of others, just beginning to excel in dressage which, as you know, is a long term commitment.

Janne, are you aware that you have become an unquestionable part of the success of american dressage with Gaucho III, as the top place in the ranking of dressage stallions in the united states, from the more than 300 breeds participating in this discipline?

I am very proud indeed that Gaucho III is currently Number 1 in the USEF rankings for Dressage sires in the USA. It is my hope that young sons and daughters will be competing throughout the country and keep him up there – there are some awfully good ones coming up. I truly believe that the influence of Gaucho III will be felt for generations to come in the PRE breed, particularly in the USA. Gaucho III's son JR has also put me very high on the list of Owners and his breeder from California, very high on the list of breeders of dressage horses.

Thanks and congratulations for the success